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**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY  
DIVISION OF AGING AND ADULT SERVICES**

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Governor

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Tracy L. Wareing  
Director

March 28, 2008

To: Area Agencies on Aging  
Pima Health Systems

From: Rex Critchfield  
Assistant Director

Subject: **Area Agencies on Aging Technical Assistance**

Attached is the Technical Assistance Alert that pertains to Emergency Preparedness Resources.

The Alert is subject to change as additional information is received by the Division.

The following Alert is attached:

**ALERT**

**FUND SOURCE/TYPE**

ALERT SFY-08-12B      Technical Assistance – Emergency Preparedness Resources

Alerts are now available on the Division website using the link:

<http://www.azdes.gov/aaa/publications/default.asp>. Scroll down to Alerts at the bottom of the webpage and select the respective Alert.

Should you have any questions regarding the attached Alerts, please contact your respective Contract Specialist.

c: Veronica Holden, Bridget Casey, Lynn Larson, Robin Jordan, Joel Millman, Jerry Lay, Scott Mitchell, David Besst, Diana Toussaint, Greta Mang, Ada Leach, Jutta Ulrich, Melanie Starns, Darrell Funk, Shannon Kavanagh, DAAS file

**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY**  
Division of Aging and Adult Services  
**ALERT**

SFY-08-12B

**Technical Assistance  
for SFY-2008**

Technical Assistance Alerts are generated periodically to identify contractual and/or programmatic requirements and/or clarifications. The purpose of this Alert is to identify resources as a follow-up to the March 6, 2008, workshop titled "Emergency Preparedness and Area Agencies on Aging: Fitting the Pieces of the Puzzle Together". **Please ensure that appropriate Area Agency on Aging personnel are aware of this technical assistance.**

*Please note that this technical assistance is not intended to be all-inclusive. The document represents a quick reference tool.*

The recent workshop focused on understanding the emergency preparedness landscape, local emergency preparedness/disaster response coordination activities, primary emergency preparedness/disaster response contacts at the local level, and a clarification of planning elements. The following activities are geared at assisting you in your local coordination efforts associated with emergency preparedness/disaster response.

Valerie Fifield from the Governor's Office on Aging is in the process of developing a webpage for the DAAS website focused on emergency preparedness for seniors and for the organizations that serve seniors. The anticipated posting of the webpage is by the end of April 2008. Links to resources listing specific preparedness steps and information regarding the unique needs of seniors in times of disaster will be included on the site.

In addition, an "Emergency Preparedness Message of the Month" will be posted on the webpage and will include updates on emergency preparedness/disaster response activities throughout the state. A schedule of county emergency planner meetings and trainings, as well as a "tip of the month," will be included in the message of the month.

Secondly, quarterly conference calls with Area Agencies on Aging are proposed to begin in July 2008. The focus of discussion on these calls will include challenges, successes, and updated progress on development of long-range emergency preparedness plans. These calls will also provide the opportunity to request specific technical assistance, ask questions, and express any concerns regarding emergency preparedness/disaster response. The calls will also be used to plan additional training workshops.

Finally, for those of you who are planning to attend the Governor's Conference on Aging, scheduled for May 14-16, 2008, at the Marriott Mesa Hotel and Mesa Convention Center, this will include a panel discussion with emergency professionals about emergency preparedness geared toward informal caregivers and older adults.

Should you have questions regarding emergency preparedness, please contact Valerie Fifield, Emergency Preparedness Technical Assistance Coordinator, at 602-542-4752 or vfifield@az.gov.